

eleventh century. They were in antagonism to the hierarchy and the Catholic system, especially to papal autocracy."

Even with those abhorred sectaries, the church was wonderfully slow to proceed to extremities. It hesitated before the unaccustomed task. It shrank from contradicting its teachings of charity, and was driven forward by popular fanaticism. The persecution of Orleans, in 1017, was the work of King Robert, the Pious. The burning at Milan, soon after, was done by the people against the will of the archbishop. . . . Even as late as 1144, the church of Liege congratulated itself on having, by the mercy of God, saved the greater part of a number of confessed and convicted kathari from the turbulent mob which strove to burn them.

. . . In 1145 the zealous populace seized the kathari and burned them, despite the resistance of the ecclesiastical authorities." / These cases of lynching are the first cases, in the Middle Ages, of burning heretics. They show that the masses in the Christian church thought that the proper treatment of enemies of God, the church, and all men.

247. Persecution popular. Innocent III began war on the

Albigenses at the beginning
 of the thirteenth century, as
 rebels
 and heretics. All Catholics
 approved what he did, and
 thought that
 the Albigenses richly
 deserved all the treatment
 they received.
 The age was not religious, but
 it had intense religiosity, and
 the
 whole religiosity was heated
 to a high pitch by the contest
 with
 the Albigenses. The pride,
 ambition, and arrogance of
 the hier-
 archy and the basest greed
 and love of plunder of the
 masses
 were enlisted against them.
 Lea's statement is therefore
 fully
 justified that " the Inquisition
 was not an organization
 arbitrarily
 devised and imposed upon the
 judicial system of Christendom
 by
 the ambition or fanaticism of
 the church. It was rather a
 natural
 — one may almost say an
 inevitable — evolution of the
 forces at
 work in the thirteenth
 century, and no one can
 rightly appreciate
 the process of its
 development and the results
 of its activity
 without a somewhat minute
 consideration of the factors
 control-
 ling the minds and souls of
 men during the ages which
 laid the
 foundation of modern
 civilization."² In the mind of
 the age

¹ Lea, *Inputs.*, I, 218.
 3 ,/###, ui.